

REMARKS

Review and reconsideration on the merits are requested. The only rejections are under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants address the rejections in the order presented, noting that rather than repeat each individual rejection regarding changing “temporally” which should be replace with --temporary--, this change has been made throughout the claims wherever noted by the Examiner.

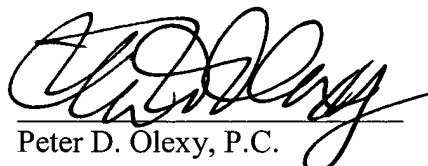
With respect to the Examiner’s rejection that it is “unclear what is recited through the use of “transfer material””, during a telephone interview with the Examiner on January 14, 2004, the Examiner indicated that that particular basis for rejection would be withdrawn. No other issue was discussed, and no argument was presented, rather, the undersigned simply called the Examiner to request clarification of that particular rejection.

With respect to “bottom of said mask” in claim 1, it is believed that the Examiner means to refer to claim 5. Applicants believe that “bottom” is an inherent component of the mask (referring to the bottom of the mask) and therefore submit it does have antecedent basis in the recitation of the mask itself (MPEP § 2173.05(e)). However, if this remains a point of contention, Applicants would be willing to change --the bottom-- to --a bottom-- or further recite that the mask has a top and a bottom. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the later given telephone exchange if this remains a problem.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No.: 10/084,933

Withdrawal of all rejections and allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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